

SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BOTTLES.

Consider this:

- Guelph tap water is brought right to your home for a fraction of 1¢ (\$0.001 59 to be precise) per litre. ^[1]
- Bottled water can cost anywhere from \$0.34 to \$3.00 per litre, making it between 213 to 1 887 times more expensive than Guelph tap water.
- If you drink the recommended eight glasses of bottled water per day, you will spend roughly between \$234 and \$2 070 per year on bottled water, whereas tap water will cost \$1.10 per year. ^[1]
- According to Environment and Climate Change Canada, Canada's emissions have grown between 1990 and 2014, primarily due to the mining and upstream oil and gas production, as well as transportation. ^[2]
- It takes nearly 29 million barrels of oil to produce the 50 billion water bottles that society goes through each and every year. In addition, it takes nearly 50 million additional barrels of oil to pump, process, transport, and refrigerate our bottled water every year. ^[3]
- 2006 estimates show that it took nearly 3 litres of water to produce 1 litre of bottled water. ^[4]
- The Canadian bottled water industry supplies approximately 50 litres per person per year or 1.6 billion litres annually. ^[5] This means nearly 4.9 billions litres of water has been used to process fuel to create plastic, creating the bottle, filtering water, transporting, and refrigerating.
- Toronto consumes an estimated 100 million plastic bottles a year, of which 35% are not recycled. Many plastic bottles still end up in landfills, or worse, as litter in forests, lakes and oceans. ^[6]
- About 70 per cent of PET drink containers in Canada are recycled, according to the Canadian Beverage Association, although recycling rates vary by province. ^[6]
- Some of that plastic waste gets shipped abroad for recycling — creating more greenhouse gases in the process. ^[6]
- It is estimated that one tenth of all plastic that is created, eventually ends up in our oceans. Plastics never decomposes or biodegrade, rather they photodegrade, meaning they slowly break down into smaller and smaller pieces, until eventually fish end up eating it, entering an entire food chain.
- According to the Ocean Conservatory, plastic bottles and bags are the most prevalent form of litter found on beaches and in the ocean - there is nearly 46 000 bits of plastic floating in every square mile of the ocean.
- North American skies have also grown quieter over the last decade with the decline of nearly 1.5 billion birds. Surveys concluded by dozens of governments, universities and environmental agencies across North America have listed 86 birds that are being threatened by plummeting populations, habitat destruction and climate change, primarily caused by the extraction of tar sands and fossil fuels, and the plastic pollution. ^[7]



A GROUP OF PEERS DEDICATED TOWARDS MAKING GUELPH
PLASTIC FREE.

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